

GROPER'S GOSSIP

Newsletter of Claremont AUSSI Masters Swimming Club Inc.
Christmas 2006

Merry Christmas All Ye Gropers

Merry Christmas to all Gropers and their families, and best wishes for a great 2007! Starting of course with our AGM and then the Swim Thru Perth – new years always start with a bit of a bang at Claremont AUSSI! In this issue we invite you to both these grand occasions, as well as reviewing recent events such as HeartSwim and the Somerset Carnival. We also urge you to send in your nominations for the Craig Bell Service to the Club Award for 2006 – the form is in this issue. And remember – December Club Night is early... it's on Tuesday 19 December. 'Til then... enjoy the holidays and the beautiful weather.

Sally Bell

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HEARTSWIM 2006

Congratulations to all Gropers involved in **HeartSwim** on 4 November. It was great to see so many Claremont members **raising funds** for a worthy cause, and, at the same time, giving themselves a **tough training session!**

Our **Pacemakers** team – **Patrick Verryn, Anthony Dunne, Sally Stanford, Sally Bell** and **Charlotte**

Bidwell – came away with the prize for the **greatest distance swum** at Challenge Stadium by any team, 12750 metres in 3 hours.

Then, **The A Team** – **Colin Mayrhofer, Rob Griffiths, Lesley Chute, Peter Chong** and **Frank Glass** – won the prize for the **closest to nominated distance:** they swam 9600 metres after having nominated 9500 metres.

Chris MacQuillan and **Chad Edwards-Smith** shared the prize for the **greatest distance swum by one person**, with their amazing solo efforts of 10450 metres.

Perc Edwards won the prize for oldest swimmer, while **Neil Sutherland** did an amazing solo swim of 9300 metres – **not that far behind** the winning boys above!

Mark Henry teamed with **Chris** and **Natalie Roberts** to form **The Rust Buckets**, achieving a great total of 10100 metres. Meanwhile, **Jenny Williams** and **Richard Johnson** joined **Perc** in the Aerobic One-Hour Team, achieving 8350 metres.

Claire Singleton was part of a BHP duo which swam more than any other duo, achieving 11200 metres, while **Steve Webb** – arriving late and leaving early – did a quick and impressive solo of 6000 metres, **accompanying Chris & Chad**.

And lastly, well done to **Elena Nesci**, who was the venue co-ordinator for the Challenge Stadium section of the Swim. It was well run and lots of fun!



Fourteen Gropers made the trek to the **newly-refurbished and extended** Somerset Pool in Victoria Park for the Somerset Carnival on 19 November.

It was **a lovely day**, and the team was in its **usual jovial mood** as it prepared for a seemingly long program of 200s (IM or Fly), 100s (Back, Breast and Free) and 50s

(Fly, Breast and Free) – as well as Mixed Free and Mixed Medley relays.

Claremont **put up a brilliant show** against bigger clubs and stiff competition. Despite having only 14 swimmers, we came **2nd overall** and won the trophy for **Top Visiting Club**. (Host club Somerset had more than twice the number of swimmers we did and more than doubled our points...)

Finishing with **178 points** – 28 points ahead of Stadium Snappers – Gropers **averaged 12 points per swimmer**, a mighty effort from all concerned.



Happy Gropers at Somerset – (Standing) Perc Edwards, Lesley Chute, Peter Chong, Richard Hughes, Chris Roberts, Patrick Verryn, (Kneeling) Alison Farmer, Natalie Roberts, Sally Stanford, (Sitting) Jenny Williams, Sally Bell, Jill Woodworth

Highlights of the day included:

- **Colin Mayrhofer's** three State records, and missing out on two National records (200 Fly and 100 Free) by **less than half a second!**
- **Ali Farmer's** 200 IM in 2.33, and her "showcase" 100 Breast in the fastest heat! (She'll be having a word with you, Anthony.)

- **Richard Fox's** winning 100 Breast in a great time of 1.50
- **Sally Bell** and **Sally Stanford** being separated by only 1/100th of a second in the 100 Free
- **Lesley Chute's** great 100 Free, going under 1.50 with a time of 1.49.96
- **Chris Roberts'** winning 100 Free (by 0.3 sec) and his great 100 Back (which nearly killed him)
- **Patrick Verryn** swimming 1.02.2 for 100 Free and 32 for 50 Fly, despite a particularly heavy night
- **Richard Hughes'** 100 Free of 1.24, which looked beautiful
- **Peter Chong's** great 50 swims – particularly 49 for Breast and 38 for Free!
- **Natalie Roberts** swimming three great events (including 51 for 50 Breast) despite almost no training!
- **Jill Woodworth's** great 100 Back, going under 1.40 in a time of 1.39.89
- **Jenny Williams'** 100 Free of 1.37 – her best for a while!
- **Perc Edwards'** ding-dong battle with stiff age group competition in the 100 Back... but Perc zipped past him at the end, winning by a mere 0.3 sec.
- **Wonderful relays** as usual... resulting in three 1sts, two 2nds and a 4th.

Thanks to all who competed, and **thanks to Somerset** for an enjoyable and efficient carnival (that went through quicker than expected) and for putting on a **fabulous lunch!**

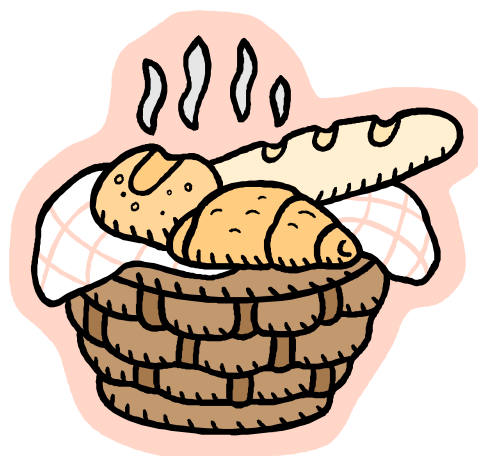
Sally Bell

FAREWELL MINCH

Past Claremont member **Minch Nicholas** died in late October. She was in her late 80s and will be fondly remembered by our longer-standing members. Our sympathy to Minch's son **Bruce**, who was also a member, and the rest of her family and friends.

DECEMBER CLUB NIGHT - BRING THE KIDS!

December's Club Night is to be held on **Tuesday 19 December** (a week earlier than usual) and is going to be a **Family Fun Night...** with fun races and other activities for your kids (and some of our "big kids"!) Then there'll be a **sumptuous BBQ** for everyone in the Club Rooms. Don't miss out!



A short note also to thank **Gabby Jolliffe**, the rest of the **social committee** and all our cooking volunteers for the **amazing fare** they've provided us with for Club Nights throughout 2006. (Special mention to **Paul Hanssen** for his delicious Mexican banquet in November!)

CRAIG BELL SERVICE TO THE CLUB AWARD 2006



This award commenced in 2004, in memory of club member and past President, **Craig Bell**, who died tragically in August 2004, aged 38.

Craig was a **terrific club member** who swam at most carnivals, and served on the committee, most notably as President. He **carried out his tasks with good humour and with minimum fuss.**

The Craig Bell Service to the Club Award seeks to honour a club member who has **attended carnivals, training and other swimming and social functions**, and been prepared to pitch in when help was required. Basically, someone who is an **all round good club member** much like Craig was.

Nominations are not limited to Committee members – your choice may be someone who is **always helping out behind the scenes**, or may be Committee member who has worked hard **outside** their usual portfolio OR has done their regular job **“above and beyond the call of duty”**. It’s up to you!

Nominations are open to all current club members. Each club member may nominate one person.

A **perpetual trophy** is awarded each year at our AGM in January, and a small gift given to the recipient.

The two past winners have been **Elena Nesci** and **Steph Canet**.

Please **return your nominations** to a committee member at **training**, or **post** them to **PO Box 257 Claremont 6910**. The Committee will decide the winner based on nominations received.

Nominations close Monday 7 January, 2007

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Nomination form – Craig Bell Service to the Club Award

The **2005 Craig Bell Service to the Club Award** should be awarded to _____

because _____

Your name: _____

- ✂ ----- ✂ -----

SWIM THRU PERTH - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The **2007 Jubilee Mines Swim Thru Perth** – our main fundraising venture for the year – is open for entries. The Swim is being held on **Sunday 21 January 2007**. This year, in addition to the traditional 4km solo event we are also holding a team event – **The Jubilee Mines Nickel Dash** – where all four team members swim the 2.2km course.

The entry forms are **available on our club website**
www.claremontaussi.org.

If any members would **like more info** or would like a copy of the event flyer sent to you to display at your work, please contact elena.nesci@ozemail.com.au or check out our website which has some good event info as well as the entry forms.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

To **ensure the success of the Swim**, we must provide a number of volunteers for the day. **Please put your hand up** if possible – just ask any previous volunteer about how much fun they have had!

Positions that need to be filled are:

Timekeepers – 2
Finishing judges – 6
Registration – 6
Recorders – 4
Sausage sizzle – 3
Raffle tickets – 2
Miscellaneous – 4

(“Miscellaneous” means – writing numbers on arms, marshalling etc.)

Remember, that **you can do more than one job** – e.g. you can do registration as well as being a finishing judge.

And **if you are competing in the Swim** – don't let that stop you! You can still help with registration and/or writing on arms...

Please email Elena as soon as possible if you can give some of your time on the morning of Sunday 21 January. We need you!

CLUB XMAS OCEAN SWIM

On **Sunday 24 December**, please join us for an **8am swim from Cottesloe to North Cottesloe and back** (please assemble on the beach in front of the Pylon at 7.45am).

For the uninitiated, this swim is a casual **1600 metres**, and with a large group is very enjoyable – there'll always be someone your speed to swim with.

See you there!

AEROBIC SHEETS DUE IN

For those Gropers who have completed aerobic swims during 2006, please forward your sheets to **Richard Johnson**, 3 Vigors Court, Duncraig, 6023 by the end of this year – or preferably earlier!

CHRISTMAS TRAINING TIMES

Training will continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout December and January, with the following exceptions...

- **No training on Tuesday 26 December**
- **No formal training session on Thursday 28 December**, however, there should be a few people there if you want to come!

Normal training will resume from Tuesday 2 January 2007.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You will all have received – or will shortly receive – a hard-copy Notice of Meeting for the **AGM**, to be held in the Club Rooms on **Monday 15 January 2007 at 7.00pm**. Please support your Club by coming along.

It is usually a very short and efficiently-run meeting, and we need a **quorum of 20 members** so please help us achieve this. And **have a drink** at the bar afterwards!

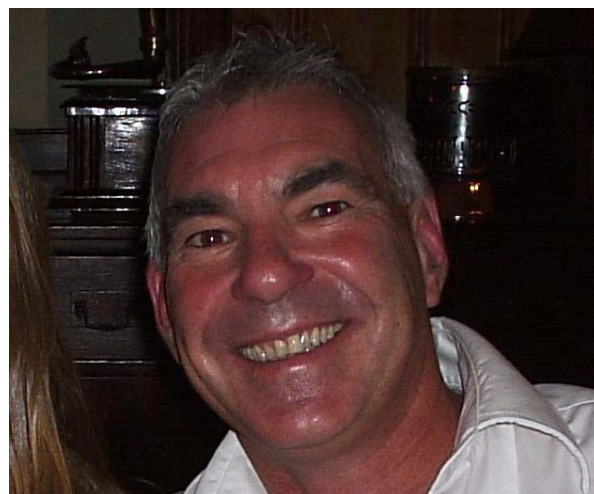
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please note that you need to **renew your membership by 31 January 2007** – requiring **completion of a renewal form** (look in the cage, get one at the AGM or ask a Committee member) so that your **details are up-to-date**.

Membership fees for 2007 are **proposed to be \$85** (to be voted upon at the AGM), representing a small increase of \$5 over the past few years – due an increase in State and National levies.

This is **great value** for a full year's membership and much less than many comparable sporting clubs.

IRONGROPER!



Congratulations to intrepid Groper **Mark Henry** for his fabulous performance in the **2006 Busselton Ironman**. Finishing 399th out of 803 competitors, Mark completed the gruelling event in an impressive time of **12 hours and 3 minutes**. Well done, Mark!

GG BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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